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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

ART TATE, Assistant Director, University Relations
Office: (217) 581-5983 - Home: (217) 348-7553

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NORBERG RETIREMENT

CHARLESTON, IL--After more than 30 years in academics, Janet Norberg of Oakland is retiring from her position as professor of Speech Communication at Eastern Illinois University at the end of this month.

A member of the Speech Communication faculty since 1963 when she was hired as an associate professor, Norberg has had a distinguished career in education.

Douglas Bock, chair of the Department of Speech Communication, said, "I have worked in four other institutions over the last 21 years, and have never seen anyone sustain such superior teaching over so long a time nor have such high student evaluations."

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NORBERG RETIREMENT

During her 27 years at Eastern, Norberg has served as Coach of Extemporaneous Speech, Director of Forensics, Supervisor of Teaching Assistants, and has taught special senior seminar workshops in addition to her full course loads.

Norberg chaired Women's Equity and Eastern's Women's Studies Council for two years. The Council, in 1985, named her one of its "Women of Achievement."

One of the founder's of the Women's Studies Council, Norberg was instrumental in encouraging the development of courses focusing on the contributions and scholarly interpretations of women in various disciplines.

She has also served on Eastern's Faculty Senate, all major University committees, and the Board of Governors of State Colleges and Universities Council of Faculties.

Norberg belongs to the Speech Communication Association, Central States Speech Association and the Southern Illinois Speech Association. She has judged Illinois High School Speech Association Speech Contests at the local, regional and state levels for the past 20 years.

In the community, she has been active in the Charleston Drama Club and Business and Professional Women, the Oakland Chamber of Commerce, and Ashmore Baptist Church.

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NORBERG RETIREMENT

Listed in Who's Who in American Education, Dictionary of American Scholars, and Who's Who Among American Women, Norberg holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Sioux Falls College, where she has served as a member of its Board of Trustees since 1983, chairs the Academic Committee, and is one of its distinguished alumni.

She earned a Master of Religious Education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in speech education, American public address, and American theatre history from the University of Iowa.

Upon her retirement Norberg said, "My profession is a 'calling' that has come from dedicated teachers' lives who touched my life; from parents who created in me a love for knowledge; from the realization of sharing the opportunities of my life to enable others, and finally from a Christian admonition to 'go and teach.'"

She added, "Teaching is a commitment, challenge, and ultimately, it is a privilege."

Norberg said she will remain in the area and continue to operate her campground, Hebron Hills Camping, located between Ashmore and Oakland, IL.